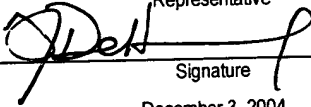




IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/859,703  
Applicants: Noriyuki OKISU, Yuji TAGUCHI, Yasuhiro MORIMOTO, and  
Shinichi FUJII  
For: IMAGE TAKING APPARATUS, IMAGE PROCESSING  
APPARATUS, IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND  
RECORDING MEDIUM (being amended herein to "IMAGE  
TAKING APPARATUS HAVING FOCUS CONTROL")  
Confirmation No.: 4126  
Customer No.: 24361  
Docket No.: 15162/03640  
Filed: May 17, 2001  
Group Art Unit: 2615  
Examiner: Gevell V. Selby

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on	
December 3, 2004	Date of Deposit
Michael J. DeHaemer	Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative
	Signature
December 3, 2004	Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

**AMENDMENT**

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated August 18, 2004, which provides for a response period ending November 18, 2004.

A Petition for Extension of Time, to extend the response period for the Office Action, for one additional month to December 18, 2004, is being filed concurrently.

Application No. 09/859,703  
Amendment dated December 3, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of August 18, 2004

**Amendment to the Title** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.

Application No. 09/859,703  
Amendment dated December 3, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of August 18, 2004

**AMENDMENT TO THE TITLE:**

Please amend the title as follows:

**--IMAGE TAKING APPARATUS HAVING FOCUS CONTROL--.**